

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JOHANN 01792 241322Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05
/103 W

-----036601 241959Z /45

R 241035Z JUL 78
FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7972
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL STUTTGART

C O N F I D E N T I A L JOHANNESBURG 1792

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SOPN, SF, GW
SUBJECT: GERMAN SURVEY'S RATING OF CHIEF BUTHELEZI

REF: DURBAN 360 (NOTAL)

1. SEVERAL PROMINENT SOWETO LEADERS, INCLUDING NTHATO MOTLANA, SALLY MOTLANA, LEONARD MOSALA, AND WILKIE KAMBULE, HAVE EXPRESSED TO POST THEIR UNHAPPINESS OVER PUBLICITY GIVEN TO RECENT GERMAN SURVEY (REFTEL) SHOWING CHIEF GATSHA BUTHELEZI WITH 44 PERCENT OF BLACK SUPPORT IN SOUTH AFRICA AND OTHERS WITH MINIMAL BACKING, LIKE ANC, PAC, BPC, AND COMMITTEE OF TEN.

2. WHILE THESE LEADERS DO NOT DENY BUTHELEZI'S IMPORTANCE AND FOLLOWING, THEY BELIEVE HIS POPULARITY MUCH LESS OUTSIDE NATAL THAN POLL SUGGESTS. HE IS, AFTER ALL, A HOMELAND LEADER AND HENCE IN LEAGUE WITH THE DEVIL (SAG). URBAN BLACKS, THEY CONTEND, ARE TOO SOPHISTICATED TO RATE HIGHLY BUTHELEZI'S VIABILITY AS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 JOHANN 01792 241322Z

NATIONAL LEADER.

3. THEIR SPECIFIC OBJECTIONS TO POLL ARE THAT (A) BUTHELEZI'S NAME WAS ONLY ONE MENTIONED AT ALL, AND HIS BILLING CAME FIRST. EVEN MANDELA, EVERY BLACK'S HERO, WAS NOT MENTIONED, ONLY HIS ORGANIZATION (ANC), PLUS OTHER ORGANIZATIONS (PAC, BPC, COMMITTEE OF TEN); (B) POLL WAS "RIGGED" (NTHATO MOTLANA'S WORD) IN

SENSE THAT SURVEY TEAM CONDUCTED PRELIMINARY POLL TO HELP "REFINE" QUESTIONS. THOSE QUESTIONS WHICH ELICITED SHARP REACTION AGAINST BUTHELEZI WERE "REFINED OUT OF EXISTENCE." ANOTHER SURVEY DONE BY SAME POLLSTERS (BUT NOT PUBLICIZED) AMONG EDUCATED SOWETO BLACKS SHOWED COMMITTEE OF TEN WAY OUT AHEAD; (C) SURVEY DID NOT EMBRACE BLACK OPINION IN CAPE PROVINCE, SINCE TEAM APPARENTLY RAN OUT OF FUNDS BEFORE SURVEY COULD BE COMPLETED. SUPPORT FOR BUTHELEZI IN CAPE PROVINCE MIGHT HAVE BEEN 33 PERCENT, WITH ANC CLOSE BEHIND; AND (D) BLACKS ARE VERY CHARY ABOUT INDICATING TO ANYONE, ESPECIALLY A STRANGE POLLSTER, THAT THEY SUPPORT BANNED ORGANIZATIONS LIKE ANC AND PAC, HOPING AVOID QUICK TRIP TO JAIL. BUT BUTHELEZI IS "SAFE", SINCE HE IS SAG'S MAN. HIS STATEMENTS FAVORING FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA, FOR EXAMPLE, HAVE BEEN WIDELY PUBLICIZED BY SAG MEDIA ABROAD, YET FEW BLACK INTELLECTUALS TODAY DO NOT OPPOSE SUCH INVESTMENT IN SOME DEGREE.

4. BUTHELEZI IS REPORTEDLY PUTTING MUCH WEIGHT ON SURVEY'S FINDING. HIS JOHANNESBURG REPRESENTATIVE, GIBSON THULA, ASKED POST JULY 20 FOR ITS REACTION. AT ROAD AHEAD CONFERENCE IN GRAHAMSTOWN THIS MONTH, BUTHELEZI APPROACHED KAMBULE AND SAID (WITH POINTED FINGER) THAT NOW OTHER BLACKS WERE GOING TO HAVE TO STOP DISCREDITING HIM, THEY WOULD HAVE TO RECOGNIZE HIS WORTH, AND THEY WOULD HAVE TO APPRECIATE THAT HE WAS PREFERRED ABOVE ALL OTHERS.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 JOHANN 01792 241322Z

JOHNSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SURVEYS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978JOHANN01792
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780303-0892
Format: TEL
From: JOHANNESBURG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780728/aaaaaxnm.tel
Line Count: 95
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 773cf96d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 DURBAN 360
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1910602
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GERMAN SURVEY'S RATING OF CHIEF BUTHELEZI
TAGS: SOPN, SF, GE, (BUTHELEZI, GATSHA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/773cf96d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014